

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 7 and 12 stand rejected. Claims 8-11 and 13-15 have been objected to. Claims 1-6 and 16-22 have been allowed.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of the claims 1-6 and 16-22.

Claims 7, 9-12, and 14-15 have been amended. Claims 8 and 13 have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Support for the amendments is found in the specification, the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. Applicants submit that the amendments do not add new matter.

Claim Objections

Claims 8-11 and 13-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated to be allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Rather than rewriting claims 8 and 13, Applicants have amended independent claims 7 and 12 to include substantially all the limitations of the corresponding objected to claims 8 and 13. Applicants cancelled claims 8 and 13.

Applicants have rewritten claims 9-11 and 14-15 in independent form to include substantially all of the limitations of the respective base claims and intervening claims, as the Examiner suggested.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 7, 9-12, and 14-15, as amended, are now allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)


Claims 7 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. RE37,409 E of Barth et al. ("Barth").

Because amended independent claims 7 and 12 have been amended to include the limitations of respective claims 8 and 13, which were indicated to be allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 7 and 12, as amended, are now allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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